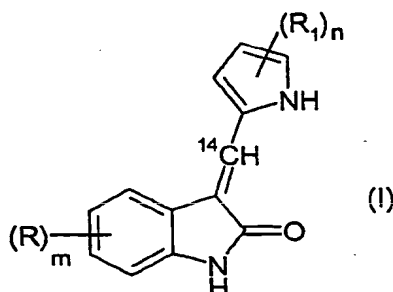


- 24 -

## CLAIMS

1. A compound of general formula (I) below:

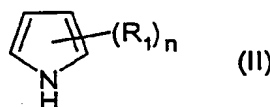


- 5 wherein
- each R group is, at one or more of the positions 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the indolinone ring and independently from each other, a straight or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl or alkoxy group or a halogen atom;
- 10 each R<sub>1</sub> group is, the same or different and at one or more of the positions of the pyrrole ring, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl or a group of general formula -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-CO<sub>2</sub>R', -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-CONR'R" or -CONH-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-CONR'R" wherein p is 0, 1, 2 or 3, the alkylene -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>- chain is optionally substituted by hydroxy, and R' and R" are selected, each independently, from hydrogen or
- 15 straight or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, R' and R" may form a pyrrolidino, piperidino or morpholino group;
- 20 m is 0 or an integer from 1 to 4;  
n is 0 or an integer from 1 to 3;  
or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein the pyrrole ring is substituted by one or more of the groups selected
- 25 from methyl, carboxy, ethoxycarbonyl, carboxyethyl, N,N-diethyl-aminocarbonyl, N-[(2-diethylamino)ethyl]carboxamide or N-[2-hydroxy-3-morpholin-4-ylpropyl]carboxamide.
3. A compound according to claim 1 which is 3-[(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl) [<sup>14</sup>C]methylene-1,3-dihydro-2H-indol-
- 30 2-one; 5-[(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-3H-indol-3-

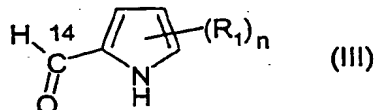
- 25 -

ylidene) [<sup>14</sup>C]methyl]-2,4-dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-3-propionic acid; N-[(2-diethylamino)ethyl]-5-[(5-fluoro-1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-3H-indol-3-ylidene) [<sup>14</sup>C]methyl]-2,4-dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxamide; 3-{5-methyl-2-[(Z)-(2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-3H-indol-3-ylidene) [<sup>14</sup>C]methyl]-1H-pyrrol-3-yl}propanoic acid; and 5-[(Z)-(5-fluoro-2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-3H-indol-3-ylidene) [<sup>14</sup>C]methyl]-N-[(2S)-2-hydroxy-3-morpholin-4-ylpropyl]-2,4-dimethyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxamide.

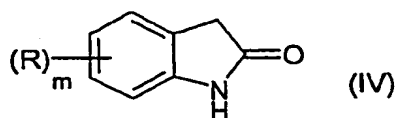
4. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1 which process comprises:
- 10 a) reacting dimethyl- [<sup>14</sup>C]formamide with a suitable pyrrole derivative of formula (II), in the presence of diphenosphoryl-chloride



- 15 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and n are as defined in claim 1, so as to obtain a compound of formula (III)



- and optionally converting a compound of formula (III) into another compound of formula (III);
- 20 b) reacting under basic conditions the compound of formula (III) with an oxindole derivative of formula (IV)

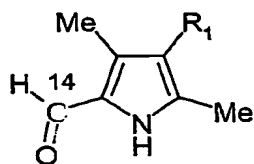


- wherein R and m are as defined in claim 1, so as to obtain a compound of formula (I) and, optionally converting it
- 25 into another compound of formula (I) and/or into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

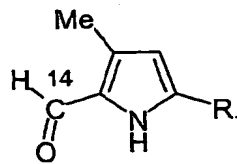
5. A process according to claim 4 wherein, in step (b), basic conditions are obtained by means of pyrrolidine.

6. A compound of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb) below


- 26 -



(IIIa)



(IIIb)

wherein  $R_1$  is a hydrogen atom or a group selected from  
 $-(CH_2)_2-CO_2H$ ,  $-CO_2H$ ,  $-CO_2CH_2CH_3$ ,  $-CONH-(CH_2)_2-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$  and  
 $-CONH-CH_2-CH(OH)-CH_2-N$  

- 5 7. Use of a compound of formula (I), as defined in claim 1, for absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion (ADME) studies.